



21 TACRON TIMES



From the Captain's Desk

Season's greetings!

It is a true blessing to take command and assume the title of TACRON-21 CO from my friend and mentor, Lloyd "Chilly" Mack. Chilly—you couldn't have turned over a finer squadron than this and I know how extremely and deservedly proud you are of the Blackjacks. I wish you and yours the best of luck at the Pentagon!

I'd like to continue to improve our communication with our Blackjack family. This newsletter is an important piece. As you can see, we added an advertisement for our Facebook page. Since many of us are avid FB'ers, please add our page to your likes as another way for us to let you know when we are hosting events.

On that note, we are hosting the Fall Festival on November 23rd. We will have several activities for the adults as well as children. Our MWR will be providing burgers, dogs, and sodas, and we ask Sailors to sign up to bring a favorite side dish or dessert. Please come out to enjoy some sports, fun, conversation, and a delicious lunch...and the dreaded "pie-in-the-face" results!

This is absolutely my favorite time of the year, despite the stresses the holidays can bring. I encourage you to plan and budget your holiday shopping and stick to it. If you struggle with sticking to your plan, walk into the stores with cash only or a pre-paid card so you're limited to only those things for which you planned to buy.

As many of you are directly aware, we certainly are in the busy season with Det ONE continuing work-ups for deployment. I know how trying this can be on families, so please don't hesitate to call me or our ombudsman, Angela Monti, if you need some help. The Navy life is indeed special. That experience makes us a family, and we all need a little shot in the arm from time to time.

I look forward to meeting you if I haven't already and to continue the conversation with the rest of you. See you on the 23rd!

Cheers,
Billy Bushman



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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

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Senior Enlisted Corner

Greetings Blackjack Family!

Once again the Blackjack team has been quite busy preparing for the upcoming deployment in February of next year. Lots of training opportunities for our Sailors. The upcoming months won't find us any less busy but it won't be all work. At the end of November we will be hosting a Fall Festival for the Sailors and their families.

I want to thank AC2 Finks, AC3 Mills and OSSN Martinez for setting up the USO for our Family Readiness Group meeting early in October. Also, AC2 Lowery for coordinating a successful Blood Drive for TACRON 21 and 22.

Congratulations to OS2 Grippi and OS2 Rosenbaum for graduating Air Intercept Controller school and OS3 Laginess for completing Sea Combat Air Controller school. Lastly, results from the rating exams should be out shortly, so we should be advancing many of our Sailors in the upcoming month.



Resource of the Month

The November 2013 edition of the CNIC FFSP Family Connection Newsletter is now available! In this edition:

- ⇒ CNO Updates on Budget Impacts
- ⇒ Preparing for a Financial Crisis
- ⇒ FREE On-Demand Tutoring for Military Families
- ⇒ Navy Wounded Warrior—Safe Harbor Promotes “Success through Transition”
- ⇒ Ready and Resilient Navy Families Webinar Series
- ⇒ Resident Energy Conservation Program RECP Waiver Process
- ⇒ Employment and Transition Corner

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program?deployment_readiness.html

With the upcoming holidays around the corner, please consider this great program. Trees for Troops, a program of the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation, provides free, farm-grown Christmas Trees to United States armed forces members in all branches of the military and their families, through donations, sponsorships, grants and the work of many volunteers. On December 6th, 2013, this organization will be on JEB Fort Story handing out FREE Christmas trees to military personnel and their families. The organization will stay until all the trees are gone. Here is the link to the website:

<http://www.christmasspiritfoundation.org/dnn/Home.aspx>

Fair Winds and Following Seas to ACC Presnell

On September 19, ACC (AW/SW) Michael L. Presnell retired from the United States Navy after 21 years of service. The ceremony was held at JEBLC Fort Story Base Chapel. Everyone at TACRON TWO ONE wishes him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" on his new adventures.



Left: OSC McElroy and OSC Williams present ACC Presnell with a shadow box of his career.

Far Left: CSSN Cryslar and OSSN Heuring pass the flag.

Below: Sailors of TACRON 21 pay tribute to ACC Presnell with mimicking his hair style.



Left: ACC Presnell takes a moment to thank his parents for their support and encouragement through the years.
Above: ACC Presnell's family.



Above: CDR Mack recognizes ACC Presnell's wife Susan and daughter for their support of him through the years.

Change of Command Dinner

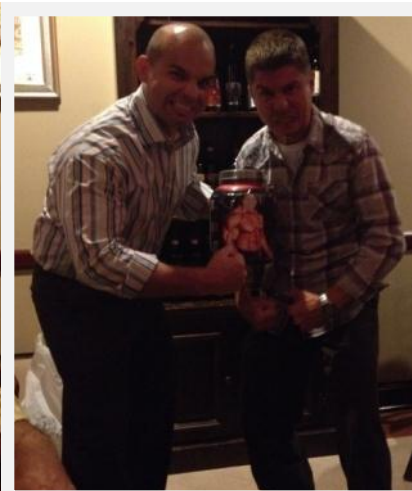
Skipper Bushman shares stories about CDR Mack.



The Officers of TACRON 21 held a dinner to bid farewell to CDR Mack and LCDR Vandervelde prior to the Change of Command ceremony.

Left: CDR Mack presents LCDR Vandervelde his farewell gift.





Top: Carletta Mack was presented her formal invitation for a silver tea.

Above:: LCDR Maneses gives LCDR Vandervelde some extra muscle building powder.

Right: The Command Challenge was upgraded.

Change of Command



October 25, 2013, CDR Bushman took command of TACRON 21 from CDR Mack. The ceremony was held at the Brashear Conference Center at JEB Little Creek, RDML Snyder, ESG-2 Commander, was the guest speaker. Family, friends and Sailors attended and enjoyed food and beverages following the ceremony.





Command Challenge

On September 27th, a team from TACRON TWO ONE competed in the JEBLC Fort Story 2nd Annual Command Team Challenge.

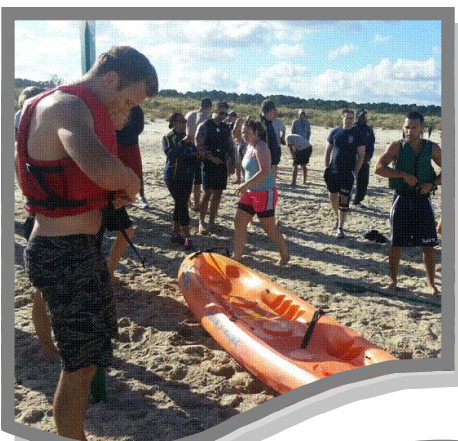
Seven teams from the Little Creek base and Fort Story competed in Minefield, Kayaking relay, Team Swimming, Obstacle course, and Water Bucket Challenge. The blustery day on the beach didn't make any of these challenges any easier but after a long day competing TACRON was awarded Third Place. Temporarily.

After an error was discovered and a re-count completed, TACRON 21 ended the day in fourth place. The teams ended the day with a BBQ luncheon provided by Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR).



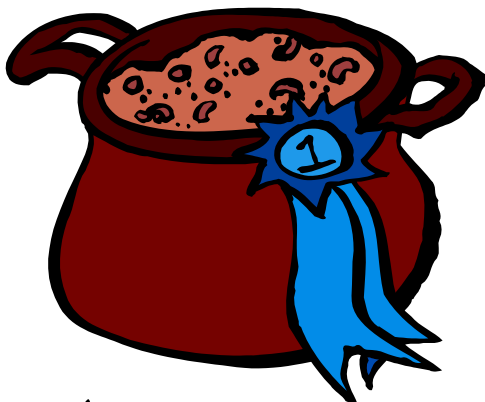
Left: Blackjacks work together to complete a portion of the obstacle course.

Clockwise from bottom left: CDR Mack receives instructions from the MWR representative; OSSN Heuring and AC3 Huffman ride the waves in their portion of the team kayaking competition; LT Cabana and YN2 Abreu prepare to hit the water in their Kayak; OSSN Heuring, AC3 Huffman and IT3 Pera form a plan of action and ACAN Momb enjoys a day at the beach.



Chili Cook Off

With the absence of reigning champion, AC3 Shipman, this year's Chili Cook-off was wide open. Six entrées competed for the title of TACRON TWO ONE's Best Chili 2013. Those competing were CDR Mack, CDR Bushman, YN2 Price, AC2 Rowe, AC3 Pugh, and AC3 Burleson. After each entrée was tasted by the judges and judged on numerous categories, the top chili was awarded to CDR Mack (or should we say to Mrs. Mack).

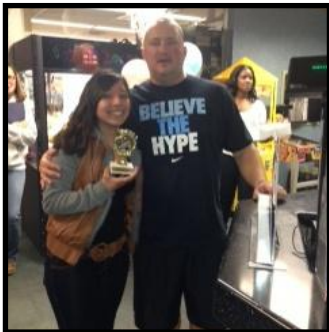


Bowling Tournament

TACRON TWO ONE's MWR Committee turned a rained out golf tournament into a bowling tournament at Little Creek's bowling alley.

The Sailor's picked teams of four and played three games to see who came out on top. Trophies were awarded for highest individual score, highest team score and lowest individual score.

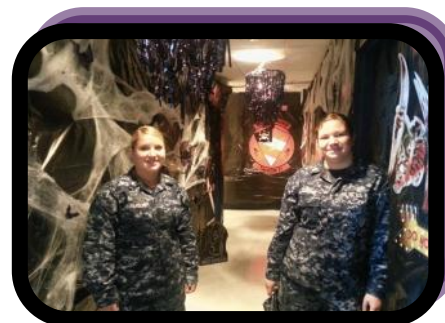
The MWR committee raised money for the annual holiday party to be held in January prior to Detachment One getting underway for their 2014 deployment.



Clockwise from far left: OS2 Macias, AC1 Fryar, AC1 Nolan and ACC Byrd were the highest scoring team; OSSN Martinez held the lowest individual score; AC1 Nolan held the highest individual score; ACAN Momb throws the ball down the lane; AC3 Bostrom wizzes his curve ball toward the pins; AC3 Jones tries to take lessons from AC3 Bostrom; AC2 Finks prepares to roll her ball crashing into the pins.

Halloween Door Decoration Contest

A Halloween door decorating contest this year was sponsored by OS3 Heuring and AC3 Burleson of Admin Dept. Participants paid a \$10 entry fee and each door was judged by ACCM Kelly and OSCS Wigfall of TACRON TWO TWO. This year's winning door was created by the Training Department and the winners were treated to a pizza party luncheon. Congratulations to the winners!!

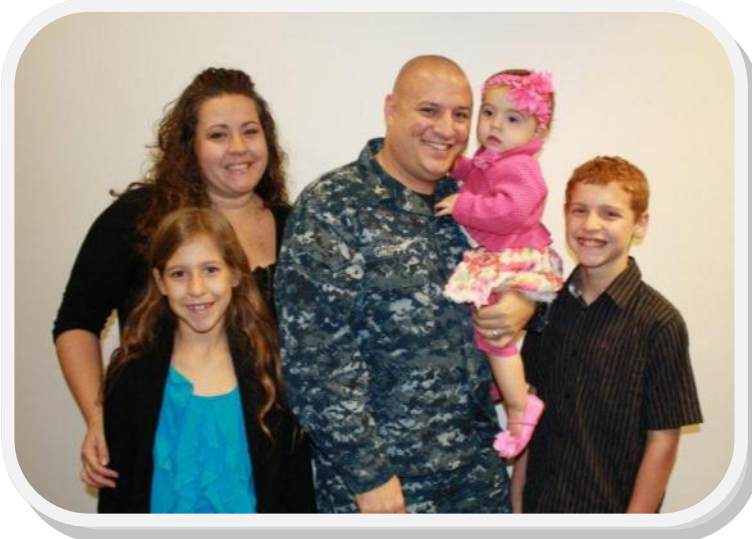


Far left: Training Department's winning door.

Top: OSC Kennedy, AC1 Anderson, AC3 Mills, AC3 Jones and AC3 Cooley with their winning door.

Above and left: OSSN Heuring and AC3 Burleson in The Hallway of Terror.

Re-Enlistments



OS2(SW) Grippi and OS2(SW/AW)
Vandlandingham take the oath and re-enlist for
six years.



Sailors in the Spot Light



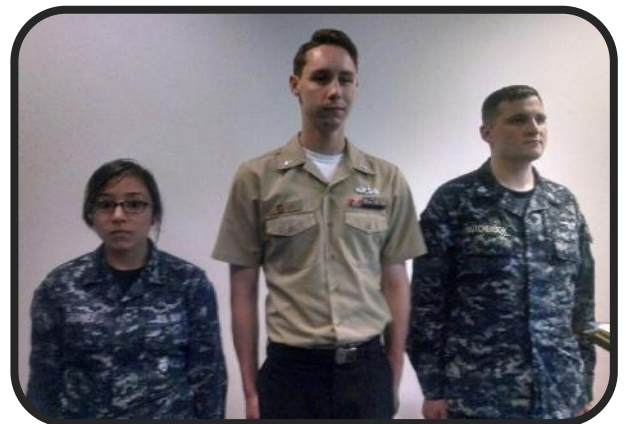
OSSN Martinez



IS3 Lohkamp



AC2 Hutcherson



TACRON 21 was recognized by The National Naval Officer Association for their continued reliable volunteer service at The Norfolk Tide's games. For their continued service, TACRON 21 was given a check for \$2,181.37 to add to the MWR fund. In addition, AC2 Hutcherson, IS3 Lohkamp and OSSN Martinez were recognized individually for their commitment to multiple games.

Farewell's

OS2(SW/AW) Jacob and AC3
(AW) Cunningham bid farewell to
TACRON TWO ONE.



WE WILL MISS YOU





Fall Festival

YOU'RE CORDIALLY INVITED TO TACRON 21'S
ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL!!!

LOCATION: Foc'sle

DATE: NOVEMBER 23, 2013

TIME: 1000 to 1400

COME OUT EAT, DRINK, MINGLE, AND HAVE A
GOOD TIME!





AAA TIDEWATER VIRGINIA WANTS TO KEEP DRIVERS SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (October 30, 2013) - AAA Tidewater Virginia, will once again offer its *Tow To Go* service in the Hampton Roads community this holiday season. The goal of the program is to provide a safe alternative to drinking and driving on area roads. The service will be available in the greater Hampton Roads area from October 31th, 2013 at 9pm until 6:00 a.m. on January 1st, 2014. *Tow To Go* kicks off on Halloween to help keep motorists and children safe as they travel the streets for Trick or Treating.

The Tow to Go program helps AAA do what we do best which is protecting the roadways by making sure that potential drunk drivers and anyone else on the roads during the holidays – make it home safely. "This program brings attention to the dangers of drinking and driving beyond just giving an intoxicated driver a safe ride home on Halloween weekend. We want motorists to be aware of the high crash risk from drinking and driving associated with holidays." said Georjeane Blumling, Vice President of Public Affairs of AAA Tidewater Virginia.

Often companies move their organizations holiday party into November because there simply doesn't seem to be enough of December to hold all the merriment. While this extends the special time for connecting with friends and family it also extends one of the most deadly months for alcohol related traffic crashes and fatalities. Drinking drivers frequently fail to seek and obtain alternative ways to get home because they are concerned about retrieving their vehicle, the expense of taxis and the inconvenience of alternative transportation.

Tow to Go Services:

- Service is provided in the Greater Hampton Roads area including Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Newport News, Hampton, Poquoson, Yorktown, and Williamsburg.
- Free and available to both AAA members and non-members
- The service includes the tow truck takes the vehicle and the driver home

Tow to Go Service Area(s)	Phone Number
The Greater Hampton Roads Area	<u>(757)- 631-1700 or 1-(800)-AAA-HELP</u> Callers simply tell the dispatcher, "I need a <i>Tow To Go</i> ," to receive both the free tow and ride home.

Callers need to keep in mind that the service excludes rides for passengers, is restricted to a one-way, one-time ride for the driver, and the destination is limited to the driver's residence. Reservations are not accepted, and the tows are available within the greater Hampton Roads area only. This service is provided free of charge to prevent alcohol-related car crashes.

TACRON 21

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Welcome to the Blackjack Family:

CDR Shannon
LCDR French
LCDR Stuckey
LCDR Vining
LCDR Rapin
LT Joy
LT Sales
LT Dargan
LT Wiggins
ACAN James
ACAN Jones
IS3 Lajiness

Best Wishes to the following family members as they depart TACRON 21 and move on to future endeavors:

CDR Mack
LCDR Vandervelde
AC2 Cunningham
OS2 Jacob

Contributions from:
CDR Bushman
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AC3 Beltran
AC3 Burleson
OSSN Myers